

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 VIENTI 04854 191251Z

46

ACTION DPW-01

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 ISO-00 IO-14 SCS-03 SCA-01 PM-07

NSC-07 SP-03 SS-20 RSC-01 L-03 H-03 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 DODE-00 PRS-01 DRC-01 /112 W

----- 076912

R 190941Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9548

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

CDR JCRC NKP

CINCPAC

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 4854

DEPT U/PW FOR SIEVERTS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AS, LA, CB

SUBJECT: MORE INFORMATION FROM AUSTRALIAN AMBASSADOR'S VISIT TO
PATHET LAO HEADQUARTERS IN SAM NEUA

REF: VIENTIANE 4781

1. AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY FIRST SECRETARY WILSON PROVIDED EMBOFF
WITH FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL DETAILS ON VISIT BY AMBASSADOR
BORTHWICK AND EMBASSY STAFF MEMBERS TO PATHET LAO HEADQUARTERS
OF VIENG SAY IN SAM NEUA PROVINCE ON JUNE 10-16.

2. WILSON SAID AUSTRALIANS ASKED PATHET LAO HOSTS WHY THEIR
VISIT HAD BEEN POSTPONED FROM JUNE 5 TO JUNE 10. THEY WERE
TOLD THAT DELAY WAS NECESSARY BECAUSE GRUNK FIGURE KHIEU
SAMPHAN HAD SPENT WEEK OF JUNE 2-8 IN SAM NEUA. AUSTRALIANS
ASKED WHETHER KHIEU SAMPHAN'S PRESENCE IN SAM NEUA IM-
PLIED LAO ROLE IN NEGOTIATIONS IN CAMBODIA BUT WERE TOLD
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 VIENTI 04854 191251Z

THAT IT WAS SIMPLY "FRIENDSHIP VISIT" WHICH GRUNK FIGURE

MADE "ON HIS WAY BACK TO CAMBODIA FROM CHINA."

3. ON U.S. PRISONER EMMET KAY, AUSTRALIAN AMBASSADOR BORTHWICK MADE REPRESENTATION FOR HIS RELEASE AS GESTURE OF GOOD WILL BY PATHET LAO WHICH WOULD FAVORABLY IMPROVE CLIMATE FOR AID TO LAOS IN UNITED STATES. BORTHWICK INDICATED TO PATHET LAO THAT FAILURE TO RELEASE KAY WAS SENSITIVE ISSUE IN U.S. CONGRESS.

4. PATHET LAO HOSTS REPLIED THAT KAY WOULD NOT BE RELEASED UNTIL LAOS AGREEMENTS WERE FULLY IMPLEMENTED, SPECIFICALLY:

(A) UNTIL ALL U.S. AND THAI TROOPS "HIDDEN IN LAOS" WERE WITHDRAWN. PATHET LAO ALLEGED TO AUSTRALIANS THAT THEY HAD INFORMATION THAT 200 THAI COMMANDO TROOPS TRAINED AT LOPBURI HAD "INFILTRATED" VIENTIANE PREVIOUS WEEK.

(B) UNTIL ALL "U.S. SPY PLANES STOPPED FLYING OVER LAOS." PATHET LAO SAID "U.S. SPYING" WAS AS SENSITIVE AN ISSUE TO THEM AS POW/MIA ISSUE WAS TO U.S. PUBLIC.

(C) UNTIL U.S. REMOVED ALL ITS MILITARY BASES AND TROOPS FROM THAILAND.

5. AMBASSADOR BORTHWICK ASKED WHETHER RADIO PATHET LAO PROPAGANDA COULD BE TONED DOWN TO PROMOTE NATIONAL RECONCILIATION. HIS PATHET LAO HOSTS RESPONDED THAT RADIO PATHET LAO HAD ALREADY BEEN TONED DOWN. HE ALSO ASKED ABOUT PRESENCE OF PRC AND NVA TROOPS IN LAOS AND GAVE HIS PERSONAL OPINION THAT ALL U.S. AND THAI TROOPS HAD WITHDRAWN. PATHET LAO ASSERTED FIRMLY THAT THERE WERE NO PRC OR NVA TROOPS IN LAOS AND THAT ALLEGED U.S./THAI WITHDRAWAL WAS A SHAM.

6. AMBASSADOR BORTHWICK ASKED WHEN FREE MOVEMENT BETWEEN TWO ZONES WOULD BE POSSIBLE, REMARKING THAT MANY VIENTIANE OFFICIALS WOULD LIKE TO VISIT SAM NEUA TO DISCUSS SUCH QUESTIONS AS AID FOR "LIBERATED ZONE." HE POINTED OUT THAT RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT HAD TO BE PLANNED ON COUNTRYWIDE BASIS. PATHET LAO HOSTS RESPONDED THAT THINGS MUST GO SLOWLY AND NO INTERCHANGE OF VISITS COULD OCCUR

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 VIENTI 04854 191251Z

UNTIL SECURITY WAS ASSURED THROUGHOUT COUNTRY.

7. AUSTRALIAN VISITORS RECEIVED IMPRESSION THAT PATHET LAO OFFICIALS IN SAM NEUA WERE PRIMARILY, IF NOT EXCLUSIVELY, INCREASED IN THEIR OWN "LIBERATED ZONE." THEY ASKED VIRTUALLY NO QUESTIONS ABOUT VIENTIANE AND EMPHASIZED TO THEIR GUESTS THE ALLEGED MASSIVE RECONSTRUCTION ALREADY UNDERWAY IN "LIBERATED ZONE." PATHET LAO HOSTS

ALSO STRESSED NEED FOR SELF-RELIANCE AND SELF-SUFFICIENCY IN PATHET LAO ZONE. THEY SAID THAT TOWN OF VIENG SAY WAS NOW BEING ESTABLISHED AS CAPITAL FOR ENTIRE "LIBERATED ZONE." SAM NEUA TOWN, WHICH WAS FORMERLY CENTRAL PATHET LAO HEADQUARTERS, WOULD REVERT TO STATUS OF CAPITAL OF HOUA PHAN PROVINCE.

8. DEPT FOR SIEVERTS: BASED ON INFORMATION BROUGHT BACK BY AUSTRALIANS AND OTHER INDICATIONS THAT EMMET KAY WILL NOT BE RELEASED FOR SOME TIME, WE ARE QUIETLY ENCOURAGING MRS. KAY TO RESUME HER PLANS TO LEAVE VIENTIANE AND RETURN TO HER HOME IN HAWAII. THIS MORNING, MRS. KAY RECEIVED A LETTER FROM HER HUSBAND, ADVISING HER NOT TO STAY IN LAOS ANY LONGER.
CHAPMAN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ARMISTICE, TREATY VIOLATION, POW RETURN, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, MILITARY AGREEMENTS, COMBAT OPERATIONS, AMBASSADORS, VISITS, ECONOMIC RECONSTRUCTION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 JUN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: BoyleJA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974VIENTI04854
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740160-0089
From: VIENTIANE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740630/aaaaazow.tel
Line Count: 130
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION DPW
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: VIENTIANE 4781
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: BoyleJA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 APR 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <24 MAR 2003 by BoyleJA>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MORE INFORMATION FROM AUSTRALIAN AMBASSADOR'S VISIT TO PATHET LAO HEADQUARTERS IN SAM NEUA
TAGS: PFOR, AS, LA, CB, PATHET LAO, (KAY, EMMET), (BORTHWICK)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005